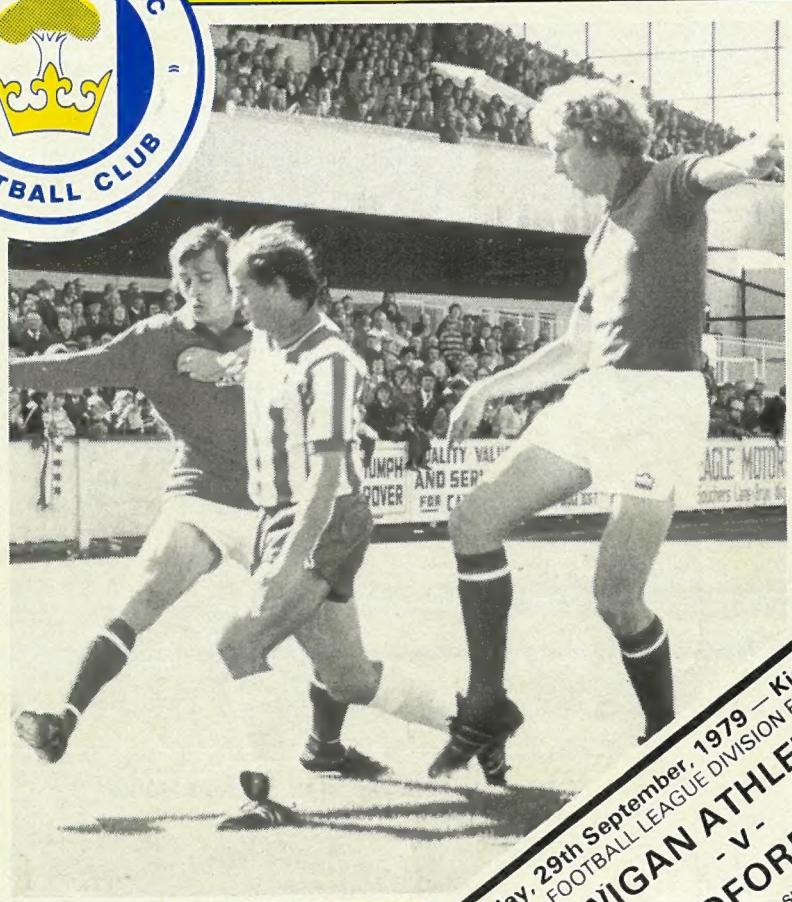


WIGAN ATHLETIC



Saturday, 29th September, 1979 — Kick-off 3 p.m.
FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR
WIGAN ATHLETIC - v - **BRADFORD CITY**

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Club Directory

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Telephone Wigan 44433.

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Mr. A. Muir.

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A. Eckersley, G.D. Gorner,
B. Connolly.

COMPANY SECRETARY:
Mr. D. Welsby.

TEAM MANAGER:
Mr. I.M. McNeill.

COMMERCIAL MANAGER:
Mr. J.T. Sudworth.

HON. MEDICAL OFFICERS:
Dr. G. Menon
Dr. S.K. Ahuja

Match Ball Donors

The Wigan Athletic Football Club wishes to thank all those who have donated match balls. Any individual or organisation wishing to join the scheme is asked to contact the Commercial Manager, Springfield Park, Wigan. (Telephone: Wigan 43067)

Our front page pic this issue shows Ian Purdie taking on two York defenders and forcing his way through. (Photo by courtesy of "The Wigan Observer")

Personally Speaking

by Ian McNeill



Good afternoon all.
A WARM WELCOME first of all to George Mulhall and his Bradford City side. They are currently riding high at the top of the Fourth Division and no doubt will be hoping for a couple of points to say there.

Hereford

Well, last Saturday we lost our fine undefeated away record, but we didn't lose it without a fight, and in fact we were the better side for most of the game. Unfortunately, we lost another couple of bad goals, but I think we were definitely worth a point. In fact, the Hereford people thought we were the best team to play there this season. I feel sure once we solve our defensive problems we will once again be on the right lines.

New Signings

Two valuable additions to the squad have been made this week. Local boy Sid Wallace has been signed from Waterford, and once this former Everton striker gets fit, I am sure we will see lots of goals from him. Ron McIvor from East Fife has been a regular with the Scottish side for the past 5 years, and is most certainly a very good acquisition indeed. However, it will take us a few weeks to get him fit as he has been in dispute with his club and has only played two games this season.

Enjoy today's game.

Ian McNeill.

WELCOME TO



BRADFORD CITY FOOTBALL CLUB 1979/80 — (Left to Right) Back Row: Lammie Robertson, Peter Jackson, Andy Burton, Stephen Smith, Mick Wood, Barry Gallagher, Paul Reaney. Middle Row: Stephen Baines, Terry Cooper, Garry Watson, Don Hutchins, Cyril Podd, Terry Dolan. Front Row: Keith Bailey, Mick Bates, David McNiven, Eugene Martinez, David Staniforth.



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BRADFORD CITY

IF EVER a club has silenced its pre-season critics with its early performances that club must surely be Bradford City, who sit majestically at the top of the Fourth Division League Table, with seven wins and a draw from their first eight league fixtures played. Eighteen goals scored against four conceded emphasises the blistering start made by the men from Valley Parade.

There were those who felt that Bradford City might well have made an immediate return to the Third Division, following their lean year in 1977-1978, but last year proved a great disappointment to those with the interests of "The Paraders" at heart. Taking over from John Napier, Mr. Mulhall found his early days at Bradford rather troublesome, but it was not long before George proved his quality as a manager. By the end of the year Bradford had recovered to a respectable mid-table position and had won back the support of their most vociferous critics. Backed to the full, by a quietly efficient Board of Directors, ably led by Chairman Mr. R. Martin, the Bradford manager methodically prepared himself for the 1979-1980 season. The response of the players is obvious for all to see.

Bradford City, who, in their time, have played in all four divisions of the Football League, are set to go racing ahead in the quest for this year's Fourth Division Championship. With the backing of a very strong Commercial Department, with the crowds again

beginning to pour into Valley Parade, and the players doing their own thing to good effect, George Mulhall looks set for a very happy year.

In 1911 Bradford City became the first winners of the present F.A. Cup, the third actual trophy used for this competition. By a strange coincidence, a Bradford firm actually designed the trophy.

It is against this background of tradition and justifiable pride in the club's past achievements, that today's Bradford City supporter looks forward eagerly to glory days yet to come at Valley Parade. We can be assured that there will be many Bradford City fans at Springfield Park today, and we trust they will enjoy their day out on the other side of the Pennines.

If last year's two highly competitive games against the Bradford City Football Club can be taken as reliable measures, the spectators at today's game are in for a thrilling and exciting encounter. Wigan Athletic fans always relish the prospect of a game against Yorkshire opposition, and, in spite of their own team's hesitant start, local followers will expect their heroes to take the Bradford side all the way to the final whistle.

Welcome then to the Directors, Players, Staff and Supporters of the Bradford City Football Club. We wish you well, gentlemen, for the remainder of the season, we look forward to a wonderful game of football, but we trust that, at the final whistle, we will have something to show for our efforts.

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COMMERCIAL CHATTER

A TELEPHONE CALL from Port Vale the other day emphasised just how difficult clubs in the Fourth Division of the Football League are finding it to attract major sponsorship. Port Vale, a forward-looking club in the commercial sphere, had come to the conclusion that, although certain business concerns did not seem favourably inclined to involve themselves with individual clubs at Fourth Division level, there might be the possibility of a large multi-national concern backing a regional grouping of clubs.

We were approached with a view to attending a meeting to discuss the matter further, and we readily agreed, although we have kept our options open just in case our own efforts to attract a major sponsor prove successful. The meeting is likely to take place in the near future. Meanwhile, despite recent disappointments, we are still pressing on with our efforts. Our latest offer is currently being considered by two nationwide organisations,

both of which have very strong business interests in the Wigan area. On paper, our ten-point offer looks attractive enough, but, with advertising and publicity budgets tightening all the time, the signing-up of a sponsor can often hinge as much on the moment the initial letter of approach drops on a marketing director's desk as on the actual quality of the offer made. Any developments will, of course, be passed on to our supporters, as and when the vital breakthrough is made.

We are pleased to acknowledge the sponsoring of today's game by Safe-Way Tower Hire Ltd. of Mullineux Street, Walkden, Worsley, Manchester M28 4GH (Telephones 061-790 4455 and 061-790 5734). The mobile aluminium towers and structures provided by Safe-Way are adaptable and suitable for both outdoor and indoor work. Unit 4 at the Excelsior Works, Bradford Road, Birstall, Nr. Batley. Telephone Batley 470339 caters for the needs of

clients on the Yorkshire side of the Pennines.

Mr. Jack Campbell, Managing Director, and his colleagues from Safe-Way are particularly welcome at today's game, and we thank you, gentlemen, for the interest you have shown in our club and your generosity in sponsoring today's match.

Thanks are also due to our old friend Phil Taylor for his kind donation of today's match ball. Over the years Mr. Taylor has done the club many favours, often at great inconvenience to himself. Phil's recent decision to go into business on his own account is now paying handsome dividends. Those who have often called upon his services in an emergency have displayed their confidence in the quality of Phil's work by filling his order book for the immediate future. Thanks again, Phil, and all the best for the future.

Enjoy today's game.
J.T. Sudworth
Commercial Manager

Income Tax Consultant, 70 Springfield Road, Wigan, Lancs., WN6 7BB
(see also our Business Consultants advertisement)

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Lancashire League Scene

by Fred Eyre

IN THE past week both Ian Purdie and Kevin Smart have joined the list of first team players who, during last season and this, for one reason or another have played in the reserve team for an odd game.

The pleasing thing, as with all the other players before them has been their attitude to the game. Nobody enjoys stepping down into the reserve team when he is used to the first team atmosphere, for whatever reason: recovering from injury, temporary loss of form or anything else but they are good pro's and played with the same spirit as if it was a Wembley Cup

Final.

Of course in the past, players like Alan Crompton, John Wilkie, Ian Gillibrand and Neil Davids, all players who are used to playing before big crowds in the first team, have played for longer periods than just one game in the reserve team, but every time they have pulled on a Wigan shirt they have given maximum effort.

It is always a big test of a player's character when he plays second team football and all of these players have proved to be a credit to their profession and worthy of the name of a Professional Footballer.

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Player Profile



Photo by courtesy of "Wigan Reporter".



NEIL DAVIDS (Defender)

NEIL received his early education in Shipley, near Bradford and as a youngster developed a keen interest in Association Football.

After showing distinct promise, Neil eventually played for Yorkshire Schoolboys' at right full-back, and it was no surprise when, on leaving school, he signed for Leeds United. After five happy years at Elland Road, without breaking through into the first team, Neil moved on to Norwich City. One highlight of his career while at Leeds, however, was his selection for the England Youth XI and he was delighted to represent his country against Wales at West Bromwich. Neil experienced further joy when he scored the winning goal in that game.

Although Neil spent two years at Norwich, making his First Division debut against Ipswich in the local derby, he only made two league appearances for the

"Canaries". However, periods of loan to Northampton Town and Stockport County earned him another fourteen league appearances.

From Norwich, Neil then moved to Swansea City, where he was to stay for little more than a year, making nine first team appearances for the "Swans". Neil Davids never really settled at Swansea and had no hesitation in joining Wigan, when the opportunity arose, prior to Wigan's first game in League Football.

A keen sportsman, and a budding business man, big Neil has endeared himself to the Wigan fans with his own particular brand of soccer without frills. When the going is at its toughest, Neil can be relied upon to stand as firm as a rock at the heart of the Wigan defence. In an area which welcomes a true competitor, the big man can always be assured of a warm reception.

RESERVE RESULTS FOR YOUR RECORDS

Lancashire League Division 1

Monday, 17th September, 1979

Reserves 3 — Liverpool 'A' 4

Wigan Scorers — Buckley, McAllister
and own goal.

Saturday, 22nd September, 1979

Reserves 2 — Southport Reserves 0

Wigan Scorers — Crompton & Gerard

Tuesday, 25th September, 1979

Reserves 5 — Rochdale Reserves 0

Wigan Scorers — Urquhart, Wallace,
Wilkie, Crompton King.

Lancashire League Division 2

Saturday, 22nd September, 1979.

'A' Team 4 — Bury 'A' 4

Wigan Scorers — Mike Quinn (3) David
Glen.

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GET WE



ABOVE
Noel Ward, plaster and all, can still manage a smile.

Photographs by courtesy of "The Wigan Observer"



CENTRE AND RIGHT
These action shots taken from last season's games, show Noel's value in set-piece situations in and around the opposition's penalty area.

Springfield Spotlight

ELL SOON



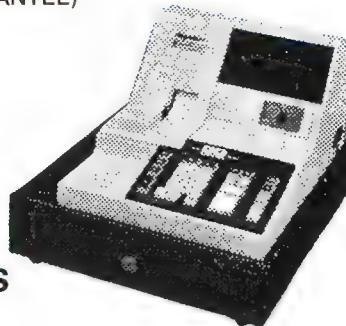
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Down Memory Lane

by Harold Ashurst

ALTHOUGH the Wigan public are well-renowned for voicing their opinions at suspect referees, thankfully the occasions when their demonstrations venture beyond the verbal are very rare indeed.

However, one such occasion took place in a match between Wigan Athletic and Winsford United, played on September 29th, 1962.

The Wigan Observer reported: "A sensational and unprecedented action by referee Mr. K.C. Hesketh of Heald Green brought the Wigan Athletic-Winsford match to a premature end of Springfield Park on Saturday. After 64 minutes play, Mr. Hesketh, who had given 40 free kicks, booked four Wigan players and sent off Bill Bradbury, Wigan's inside left, waved his arms in a gesture of resignation and called the teams into the dressing room.

His action sparked off angry scenes

amongst the 3,782 crowd (which was Latics' biggest of the season) and there was a half hour demonstration outside the main stand by hundreds of fans. As Mr. Hesketh had already been buffeted as he strode up the passageway towards the dressing-rooms, there was a distinct possibility of more violence when he left the ground. But eventually he made a safe and unobtrusive exit, leaving by a side door with an escort of two police inspectors and a constable.

According to form the referee had had a tough time controlling the teams all afternoon but controversy still raged for weeks afterwards about his decision — especially as Wigan were losing 2-1 at the time!

The Wigan team in that ill-tempered match was: Swindells, Houghton, Briars, Hennin, Higgins, Edmondson, Morgans, Kinsella, Lyon, Bradbury and Schofield.

LATICS AWAY

SUPPORTERS making the journey to Hartlepool on Tuesday, 2nd October, 1979 are asked to note that the game kicks off at 7.15 p.m. and not at the more usual time of 7.30 p.m. Supporters are recommended to use the M62 eastwards leaving the motorway at junction 33 near Pontefract and joining

the A1 signposted to the North. Continue on the A1 northwards and the A1 (M) north of Darlington, leaving by the A689 which leads into Hartlepool town centre. Bear right into Clarence Road for the Hartlepool United Football Ground in Scarborough Street. Have a safe journey.

Facts and Figures

Home fixtures in capitals.
Wigan scores first.

Player scoring in bold.
† Player substituted.

Figure indicates no. of goals scored by player.
* In result column indicates opponents own goal.

DATE	Fixture	F	A	ATT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	E	9	10	11	12
Aug 11	Stockport FLC1	1	2	6,004	R. Ward	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N. Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	Brownbill	Purdie	Urquhart
Aug 15	STOCKPORT FLC1	0	-0	7,581	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N. Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Brownbill	Purdie	Moore
Aug 18	Darlington	2	2	2,063	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan*	Gore	N. Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore	Purdie*	Davids
Aug 22	HUDDERSFIELD	1	-2	6,927	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N. Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore*	Purdie	Brownbill
Aug 25	Stockport County	2	1	3,837	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore*	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	Moore	Purdie	N. Ward
Sep 1	PORTSMOUTH	1	2	8,198	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N. Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	Moore*	Purdie	Urquhart
Sep 8	Bournemouth	2	1	4,390	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Han	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore*	Purdie	Brownbill*
Sep 15	YORK CITY	2	-5	5,990	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan*	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Purdie	Urquhart*
Sep 19	HARTLEPOOL	2	1	4,877	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton*	Purdie
Sep 22	Hereford United	1	2	3,891	Shyne	Gore	Hinnigan	Purdie	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright*	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Urquhart
Sep 29	BRADFORD CITY															
Oct 2	Hartlepool United															
Oct 6	TORQUAY UNITED															
Oct 9	Huddersfield Town															
Oct 13	Doncaster Rovers															
Oct 20	LINCOLN CITY															
Oct 24	ROCHDALE															
Oct 27	Newport County															
Nov 3	DARLINGTON															
Nov 6	Rochdale															
Nov 9	Tranmere Rovers															
Nov 17	SCUNTHORPE															
Nov 24	F.A. Cup 1															
Dec 1	NORTHAMPTON															
Dec 8	Walsall															
Dec 15	F.A. Cup 2															
Dec 21	CREWE															
Dec 26	Peterborough															
Dec 29	STOCKPORT															
Jan 1	PORT VALE															
Jan 5	Halifax Town															
Jan 12	Portsmouth															
Jan 19	BOURNEMOUTH															
Jan 26	ALDERSHOT															
Feb 2	York City															
Feb 9	HEREFORD UNITED															
Feb 16	Bradford City															
Feb 23	DONCASTER															
Feb 29	Lincoln City															
Mar 8	NEWPORT COUNTY															
Mar 14	Torquay United															
Mar 22	TRANMERE															
Mar 29	Scunthorpe United															
Apr 4	Crewe Alexandra															
Apr 5	PETERBOROUGH															
Apr 7	Port Vale															
Apr 12	HALIFAX TOWN															
Apr 19	Northampton Town															
Apr 26	WALSALL															
May 3	Aldershot															

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Fourth Division Focus

by Chris Gill



CREWE railway station is renowned for being hectic, but, last week, it boasted nothing to compare with the goings on along the street at Gresty Road. Manager Tony Waddington, in a bid to shift his side off the bottom rung of the Fourth Division, swooped to make three signings in time for the game at Aldershot. He signed Derby County's promising young striker Colin Chesters for £10,000, paid Sheffield United a similar fee for mid-field man Mike Guy and 'borrowed' Bolton reserve 'keeper Dave Felgate to replace John Phillips who has now returned to Chelsea.

Rochdale, too, made a move into the transfer market, snapping up experienced Tranmere Rovers defender Eddie Cliff on a free transfer, in time for the player to make his home debut against Portsmouth.

"Jekyll and Hyde" side York City pipped several Second and Third Division teams for the signature of Swindon's Chris Kamara who had a quiet game on his debut against Stockport.

There was a first at Hereford last week when 17-year old Stewart Phillips scored his first ever goal in the League. Alas it was against Latics and it proved to be the winner!

Portsmouth's search for a striker continues to provide great interest. Having had bids for Latics Peter

Houghton, Hartlepool's Bob Newton and Keith Houchen rejected, they may now turn to Port Vale's Ken Todd.

Having sold striker Kevin Kilmore to Grimsby, Scunthorpe United have cast their eyes towards non-league side Bridlington for a replacement in the form of 21-year old Paul Oberg.

Stockport are still looking for a replacement for Stuart Lee as Mike Summerbee's bid for Barnsley striker Tommy Graham didn't match the Oakwell club's £25,000 valuation of the player.

Perhaps the biggest under-estimation of the week is the £80,000 tag put on Aldershot's prolific scorer John Dungworth. Taking into account all the goals he scored last season, Shrewsbury's apparent bid should be laughed off the table.

Anyway, there are no prizes for answering the following question. Which Fourth Division side has scored first in nine out of their ten games this season? Of course, it's Latics! If there were tables for such an achievement Latics would probably be in the First Division and at the top! The only time the local lads have failed to take the initiative was in the League Cup at Springfield when neither Latics nor Stockport opened their account. Is this a record?

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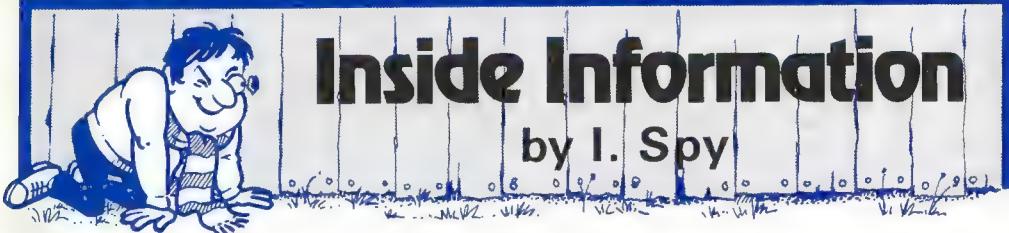
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COMMERCIAL MANAGER, Jack Sudworth appeared before the Office Disciplinary Committee on Friday, having been reported for retaliation against a cardboard box in the "Soccer Shop", earlier in the week.

Jack, denied space all morning by several cartons of souvenir goods, finally blew his top when tripped by a particularly aggressive cardboard box. Losing his cool our Commercial Manager whipped around and unleashed a powerful right foot drive at the offending article. The box stood up well to the savage attack, merely uttering a subdued clinking noise, while

Jack hopped about in pained agitation. Merle Ward, in charge of the Soccer Shop, stepped in quickly to examine the damage (to the box), and extracted one splintered Wigan Athletic mug from the box!!

We are pleased to report that, in spite of an impassioned plea by prosecuting counsel, Derek Welsby, that Mr. Sudworth should be fettered with scarves and pelted with Lottery Tickets, the Office Disciplinary Committee ruled that a bruised toe and the cost of replacing one mug be sufficient punishment for committing a first offence.

Have you heard the latest

about the Manager who invited frustrated fans to contact him and discuss what they saw as his teams problems? His best offer came from a husband and wife consultancy, who were prepared to add their contributions to the manager's think-tank in the hope of "bringing about an improvement". The manager involved, against the advice of colleagues concerned for his sanity, has decided to put no time limit on his offer. Interested parties are asked to note however, that no paid or unpaid positions as consultants are available at Springfield Park.

HELLO AGAIN! Welcome to all Latics supporters and all Bradford City fans who have "crossed the border".

All at the Supporters' Club wish you a good afternoon and an enjoyable match.

You will remember that earlier in the season I mentioned that we are full members of the "National Federation of Supporters' Clubs" and as such, we shall be invited to nominate a "Miss Wigan Athletic" to compete in the national competition to choose a "Football Queen".

I understand that the earlier stages are on a regional basis, but that as the event nears the finals — there are some very pleasant evenings in store.

I will keep you informed as to when our local heats will take place, but meantime, all you Dads and boy-friends, please let me have your nominations.

With reference again to our "Big Band Show" on Monday, 15th October, I am pleasantly surprised at the interest being shown, and I would respectfully ask all members and friends to collect their tickets as soon as possible.

The evening before the Big Band Show, Sunday the 14th October, we have another big night: our stage presentation "Winston". This is sure to be an attraction and I would ask all who are coming along to be in the club before 8 o'clock.

I think that one of the most difficult jobs in a club committee is that of Concert Secretary. Trying to

Supporters Club News



arrange entertainment for the enjoyment of so many people is not easy, but in Philip Taylor and George Jennings we have two chaps who have combined to do a great job. Thank you very much Phil and George. Why not judge for yourselves? You will be welcome on:

Saturday, 6th Oct.	— Second Avenue
Sunday, 7th October	— Johnny Highton
Saturday, 13th Oct.	— Des Newton
Sunday, 14th Oct.	— "Winston" plus Audrey Jones

Looking forward to seeing you.

Sincerely,
Peter Woods.



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A last word from the chairman . . .

In the absence of the Chairman, who is on holiday, we are pleased to donate the space normally allocated for his remarks to the Boys' Brigade.

Boys' Brigade — first for boys

THE BOYS' BRIGADE is holding its first ever recruitment drive in its 96 year history. Founded in 1883 in Glasgow it now spans 60 countries with over 300,000 members. As the first-ever uniformed youth organisation it has adopted the slogan "The Boys' Brigade — First for Boys". With a wide-ranging programme from games and competitions up to camping, bands, crafts or first aid the Boys' Brigade caters for all boys and young men from 6 years up to 18 years, in three or four different age groups. Many famous sports personalities have been in the B.B. and amongst them are Ian McNeil, the Latics Manager, who played his first ever International match for the B.B. in Scotland against the Irish B.B. Terry Neill the Arsenal Manager was also in the B.B. and still retains strong links after becoming a B.B. Queen's Man. He is in fact a B.B. Hon. Vice President. Another former B.B. Bugler is a man who always has plenty of "blow on T.V.," that's Coventry's Jimmy Hill. Pop star Cliff Richards is also a B.B. Hon. Vice President. In Wigan we have 17 active companies with over 1,000 members, but there is plenty of room for more. If anyone requires more information they should pop down to their local B.B. Company or ring Wigan 866530 any evening after 5.00 p.m. Who knows you may start out playing for a Wigan B.B. team, who play in the morning so as not to miss the Latics, and end up in the Football League like those mentioned.



D.O. Jones.

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Teams

**Wigan
Athletic
(Royal Blue
& White Stripes)**

Chris Shyne	1	Stephen Smith
Tommy Gore	2	Cyril Podd
Joe Hinnigan	3	Gary Watson
George Urquhart	4	Micky Wood
Neil Davids	5	Stephen Baines
Dave Fretwell	6	Terry Cooper
Frank Corrigan	7	Mick Bates
Jeff Wright	8	Terry Dolan
Derek Brownbill	9	David Staniforth
Micky Moore	10	David McNiven
Peter Houghton	11	Donald Hutchins
Ian Purdie	12	Eugene Martinez

**Bradford
City
(Amber)**

Officials

Referee:
Mr. Don Shaw
(Sandbach)
Commenced refereeing in 1964 and graduated via the Crewe and District Mid-Cheshire and Northern Premier Leagues to the Football League list. Has officiated in important English F.A. and European F.A. fixtures.

Linesmen:
Red Flag
Mr. D.R. Farrall
(Nantwich)
Yellow Flag
Mr. R.A. Funnell
(Chester)

Here next...

Saturday, 6th October, 1979 Kick-off 3.00 p.m.
WIGAN ATHLETIC v TORQUAY UNITED
Football League Division 4